

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 4, 12, 14, 15 and 22 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested. Therefore, claims 1-22 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 14-17, and 20 have been found to contain allowable subject matter. Applicant further notes that the subject matter of claims 3 and 14, which is understood to be allowable, includes the recitations of the inner and outer vessel parts. It is further understood that when these recitations are incorporated with claims 1, 12, and 22, as base claims, the recitations of the inner and outer vessel parts are allowable even while standing along alone. As such, this subject matter has been incorporated into claims 1, 12 and 22 so as to render these claims patentably distinguishing over the prior art.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 11, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of Willis (US Patent No. 5,158,064). However, since claims 1 and 22 have been amended to include subject matter of former claims 3 and 14, which is understood to be allowable, as discussed above applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully assert that claims 1 and 22 are allowable. Regarding the rejections of claims 5, 9 and 11, it is noted that these claims depend from claim 1 and are also allowable.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

In the Office Action, claims 8, 12, 13, 18, 19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Willis (US Patent No. 5,158,064) in view of Maniscalco (US Patent No. 3,639,725). Regarding the rejection of claim 12, it is noted that claim 12 has been amended as discussed above and is therefore allowable for substantially similar reasons as that of claims 1 and 22. Regarding the rejections of claims 8, 13, 18, 19 and 21, it is noted that these claims depend

from claims 1 and 12 and are also allowable.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.


If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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